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Executive Registry
61-1572/c

[Handwritten signature]

10 21 21

Mr. Marion W. Boggs
Acting Executive Secretary
National Security Council
Executive Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Boggs:

I understand that copies of the staff papers of the President's Committee on Information Activities Abroad, of which Mr. Mansfield D. Sprague was the chairman, have been distributed to the Departments of State and Defense, to USIA and the Bureau of the Budget, as well as to CIA. Certain of these pamphlets contain statements, the revelation of which to unauthorized individuals could be seriously prejudicial to the interests and activities of this Agency. Accordingly, I should greatly appreciate it if you would request the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Directors of USIA and the Bureau of the Budget to limit distribution of the staff papers listed below to persons in their respective departments and agencies who are authorized access, on a need-to-know basis, to information concerning operational activities of this Agency.

The staff papers containing information relevant to the security of the activities of this Agency are as follows:

PCIAA 1	PCIAA 12	PCIAA 34
PCIAA 2	PCIAA 17	PCIAA 36
PCIAA 8	PCIAA 30	PCIAA 37
PCIAA 11	PCIAA 31	

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE 115 C)

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Although not of immediate security concern to this Agency, it occurs to me that other agencies or departments of the Government may be interested in limiting the distribution of the following papers:


PCIAA 23
PCIAA 24
PCIAA 28

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: DDCI

Signature Recommended:

 10
Deputy Director (Plans)

DDP/SPO/JABross/bcd 8 Mar 1961



Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

- 1 - DCI *Via Reading*
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - DDP
- 1 - DDP/COPS
- 1 - DDP/SPO
- 2 - DDP Registry

✓ (1) ER

61-1982

1-1261

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7 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Disposition of Sprague Committee Staff Papers

1. On February 24th, Mr. Parrott received a telephone call from a Mr. Fred Bundy of USIA calling CIA's attention to certain passages in a Sprague Committee staff paper which had recently been released and which Mr. Bundy thought might be considered prejudicial to our security. As it had been my understanding that staff papers of the Sprague Committee were to be deposited with the National Security Council and available there on request to authorized representatives of agencies concerned, but were not to be released, I did not understand what Mr. Bundy was talking about. On investigation, however, I discovered that all of the Staff papers of the Committee had been duplicated and bound and that four copies of each paper have been delivered respectively to State, Defense, USIA, Bureau of the Budget and ourselves. There are 33 reports. The classifications vary from secret to no classification at all. In the secret category are a number of papers which include discussions of such topics as:



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e. A discussion of technical and scientific programs some of which, I believe, are rather highly classified.

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2. I called Mr. Boggs, who I gather is the acting Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, to find out who authorized the dissemination of these reports and also to suggest the desirability of their recall. Mr. Boggs said that he understood that Mr. McGeorge Bundy authorized their release, presumably on the recommendation of somebody or other, possibly Mr. Phillips, the administrative officer of the Committee. Mr. Boggs said he thought Mr. Sprague had been consulted and had acquiesced in this proposal. I pointed out the security problem and suggested that the dissemination of certain of these reports with a relatively low classification constituted a security hazard. Mr. Boggs asked what I thought we should do and I said that I thought the simplest thing, particularly in view of the fact that the papers were never to have been released at all, was to recall them. He said that he would do so.

3. On Wednesday, March 1st, Mr. Boggs called to say that on further inquiry he had been unable to find anybody who remembered any agreement to the effect that the staff papers should not be distributed and that if we wanted them or any of them recalled we should submit a written request over the Director's signature specifying the reason.

4. I called Mr. Waldemar Nielsen in New York to ask his recollection of the agreed arrangement with respect to the disposition of the Committee's staff papers and also his views as to how to handle the security problem involved in the dissemination of at least some of the papers. His recollection of the original understanding confirms almost exactly with my own and with Mr. Nielsen's understanding was:

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a. That the staff papers of the Committee would be deposited with the NSC.

b. That they would be clearly marked as representing the views of the staff member or research consultant responsible for the preparation of the paper only, and that it would be made clear that they in no sense represented the official view of the Committee or any of its individual members.

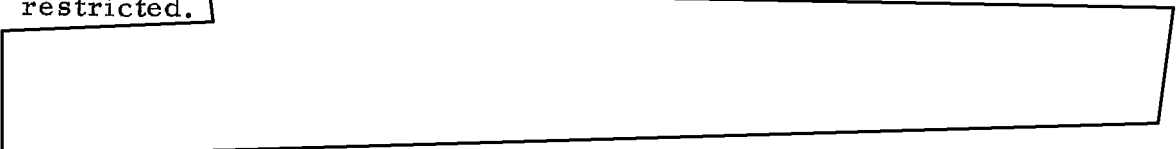
c. That no definitive decision had been made with respect to how members of the Government should be given access to

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these papers. It was recognized that they should be available for consultation, under controlled circumstances, by appropriate representatives of the Government. It was Mr. Nielsen's recollection that some thought had been given to disseminating a list of papers to agencies and departments concerned which would serve as a sort of accession sheet and make it possible for authorized officials of particular agencies to consult particular papers for background purposes under controlled circumstances.

5. I called Mr. Boggs and told him of my conversation with Mr. Nielsen. Mr. Boggs indicated that whatever agreement had been reached by the Committee was immaterial and irrelevant as the new Administration could make any decision on the matter that it chooses. This is indisputable. However, Mr. Boggs does agree that from a security standpoint further dissemination of certain of the staff papers is undesirable. As I understand it, he has requested the recipient departments and agencies to suspend distribution of these papers until further advice. Actually dissemination of a number of papers would do no harm and may, indeed, be beneficial. These are the papers dealing with such subjects as American tourists and businessmen abroad, educational development, etc. However, those papers dealing with matters of security interest to the Agency, the revelation of which could cause embarrassment, should obviously be very closely restricted.



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6. As a practical matter the best solution appears to be a letter from the DCI to the National Security Council secretariat requesting limited distribution of pamphlets of security concern to us.



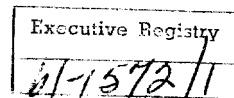
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John A. Bross
Senior Planning Officer
O/DDP

Distribution:

Orig - DCI
1 - DDCI
1 - DDP
1 - DDP/COPS
1 - DDP/SPO
3 - DDP Reg

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9 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director (Plans) [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Disposition of Sprague Committee Staff Papers

1. This memorandum suggests action on the part of the DCI. Such suggested action is contained in paragraph 4.

2. Due to what appears to have been a misunderstanding or ignorance of the agreement reached by the Sprague Committee with respect to the disposition of staff papers of the Committee, all of the staff papers have been bound and distributed in four copies to State, Defense, USIA, Bureau of the Budget and CIA. Due to the sensitivity of the subject matter of at least some of these staff papers, which

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[REDACTED] acting Executive Secretary of the National Security Council has agreed to request (and I understand has requested) the departments and agencies receiving these papers to suspend distribution of these papers pending further notice.

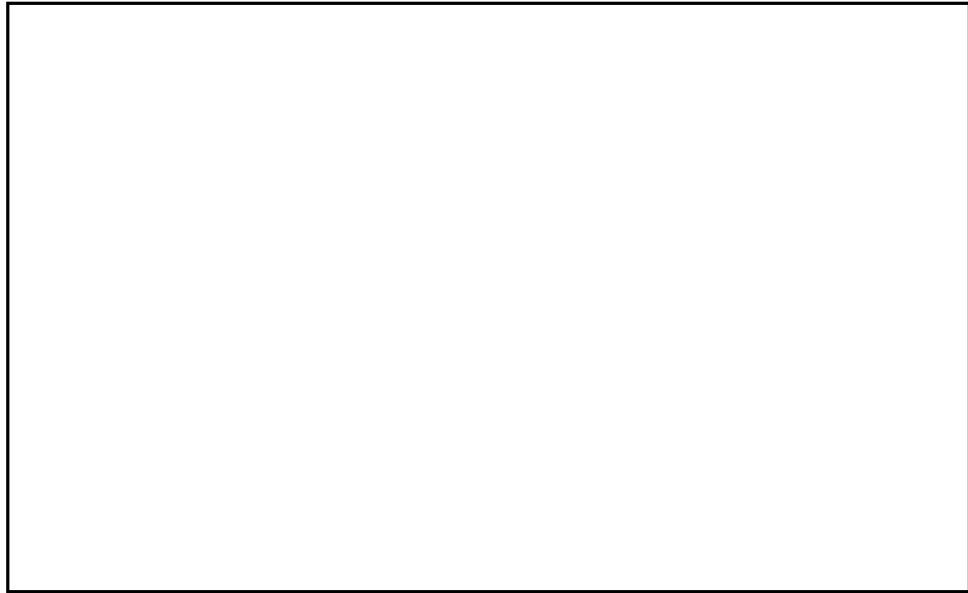
3. [REDACTED] and I have reviewed the staff papers and believe that the following contain information, the revelation of which would be seriously prejudicial to the interests of the Agency:

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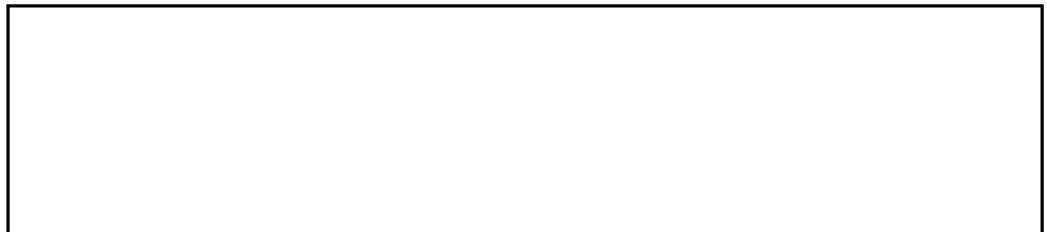
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(Copies of these staff papers are attached.)

4. Attached is a proposed letter to the NSC for the Director's signature, requesting that heads of departments and agencies which have received copies of these staff papers be asked to limit distribution of the papers mentioned in paragraph 3 above to individuals expressly authorized by the heads of the departments or agencies to deal with **CIA** on operational matters. The proposed letter also calls the attention of the acting Executive Secretary to the three following additional staff papers (also attached) which, although not of immediate security concern to **CIA**, may affect the interests of other agencies of the government.



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John A. Bross
Senior Planning Officer
O/DDP

Attachments - 15

14 PCIAA documents as listed
Proposed letter to NSC

cc: DDCI wo/atts.

*Returned to John Bross
w/ his copy ER 61-1572/a.*

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Approved For Release 2002/10/22 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001400050009-8

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM					
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE		
1	DCI 221 Admin				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
	COMMENT		FILE	RETURN	
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
Remarks:					
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER					
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.				DATE	
DDP/SPO					

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